

# **Table of Contents**

| Introduction to Districts, District Combinations and Offices                      | 2  |
|---|----|
| Key Terms   | 2  |
| View and Maintain District Types  | 3  |
| View District Types   | 3  |
| Maintain Districts  | 5  |
| Edit District Detail  | 5  |
| View and Maintain District Combos   | 6  |
| View District Combo Details   | 6  |
| View and Maintain Office Types  | 7  |
| View Office Type  | 7  |
| Add or Edit Office Type   | 8  |
| Edit Office Positions   | 9  |
| Update Office Holder  | 10 |
| The District Combo Listing Report   | 11 |
| District Combo Listing  | 11 |
| Business Process for Reporting Changes or Problems with District and Office Types | 13 |



# Introduction to Districts, District Combinations and Offices

Defining governmental districts is a requirement in the voter registration and election management processes. Once these districts are defined, registered voters can be assigned to districts associated with their physical addresses. This information is shared between many SVRS modules so that voters are assigned to the correct polling location and receive the proper ballot style for each election.

# **Key Terms**

**District Type:** District Type records define the different categories of districts found within the state (for example, Congressional District; WI State Senate District; WI Assembly District; Technical College District; Unified School District; Lake Management District).

**District Details:** These are the actual codes and descriptions for each district within a District Type. For the District Type of State Assembly there are records giving the district code and district description for the 99 Assembly Districts in Wisconsin. In this case, the State is the only jurisdiction that is allowed to add and update the District Detail records. Counties and municipalities will work with their district details in the same manner. District Details are referred to simply as Districts in most of this chapter.

**District Combo** or **District Combination** is simply that – a record containing the unique combination of governmental districts which represent a specific physical area. District Combos are attached to an Address Range, which is then linked to the voter's record. Based on a voter's physical address, the voter can be linked to a district combo and therefore all the appropriate districts – federal, state, county and municipal districts, plus school district, sanitary district, technical college district, etc.

Each municipality (City, Village or Town) is divided into distinct areas called **wards** for voting purposes. State law defines the size of wards (number of voters in a ward) and also what constitutes a ward. Everyone in a ward is in the same federal, state, county and municipal districts. A ward can be split by School districts, Sanitary Districts, Lake Management Districts or Technical College Districts.

This unique combination of districts defines who the voter may vote for in an election (ballot style). This is a District Combo. The **District Combo Code** is in a new format – 11111-222-3333-4. The first 5 digits are the Hindi number, unique to every municipality. The second block of 3 digits stands for the ward. The new block of 4 digits contains the School District Number – in the example, 0119 stands for Amery School District. The last digit is the split, used for sanitary or transportation districts that might split a ward into more than one section.

**Office Types:** An office type is a public office based on a specific district type. For example, an Office Type may be "State Assembly," which is based on the district type of State Assembly District. When the Office Types are in place, information can be added for candidate eligibility and filing requirements for a particular office. Even if there are multiple Office Positions (or seats) for one Office Type, like for County Supervisors, Alderpersons, or School Board Members, you only need to create one Office Type.

**Office Positions:** Once an office type is setup, an office position is automatically created for each district of that type. For example, when you setup the office type "State Assembly" the office position called "State Assembly District 1" is created by SVRS. The office position is held by an office holder. When an office is to be voted on at a specific election, it is tied to that election by adding a contest for that office position.

**Office Holder:** The person who holds (is elected or appointed to) that office. For example, an Office Holder for the office position "State Assembly District 36" may be "Shirley Smith." There can be multiple Office Holders for a position that has more than one seat, such as School Board Members. Information such as term beginning and ending date can be assigned for each Office Holder. In addition, non-elected Office Holders can be entered into the system so that they appear on the MyVote website.

V5/10/2013 - 2 - Districts and Offices



# **View and Maintain District Types**



A District Type defines the different categories of districts found within the state, county, municipality or region. All district types in the state can be viewed at all levels. Only the Owner of a District Type (the State of Wisconsin, a specific County or a specific Municipality) can modify a District Type. Every District Type is now presented by showing a map in which the district covers. Every District covers a certain geographical area and is represented on a map.

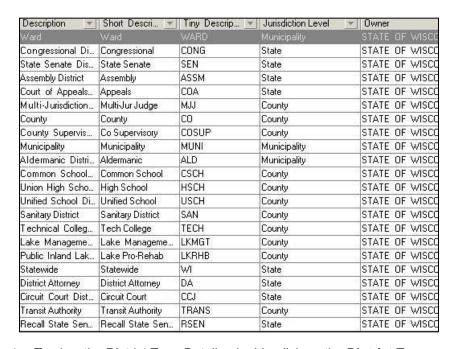


In Wisconsin, the State maintains most district types and has created most of those needed at the County and Municipal levels. There are some instances where a unique district has not been created, so a new District Type will have to be added. Remember any "district" that has the same physical boundaries as an existing district, can use that district for Office Types. For instance, all County Officials will use the District Type of County.

All municipal offices elected by all voters use the District Type of Municipal. Aldermanic Districts can use the District Type of Ward, if each Aldermanic District matches identically with a Ward. If a Town is divided into 3 Wards, but has 2 Town Supervisory districts, then a new District Type may have to be added.

#### **View District Types**

- 1. Expand (+) the **Districts and Office Types** node on the Main Menu tree.
- 2. To see a list of **District Types**, click on **Districts**.
- 3. A list of **District Types** is displayed on the data grid.



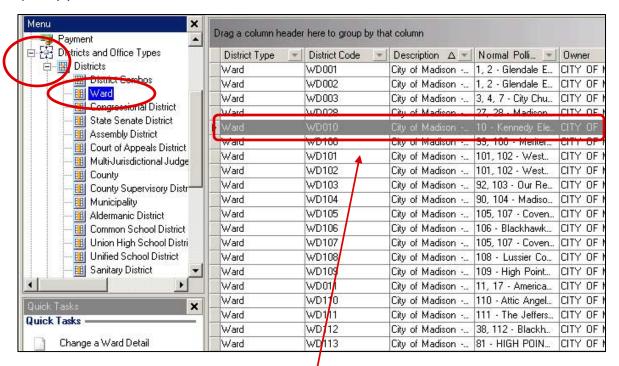


4. To view the District Type Details, double-click on the **District Type**.

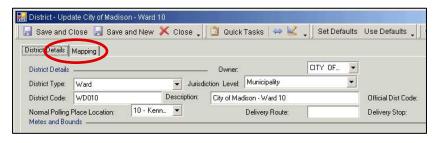
V5/10/2013 - 3 - Maintain District Types



- 5. To view a District Type Map:
  - a. On the Menu Tree, expand (+) Districts and Office Types.
  - b. Expand (+) the Districts node.



- A list of **District Types** is displayed in the menu.
   For this example choose **Ward**.
- d. To view the Map associated with **District Details**, select from the list and double-click on a specific **District Type**.
- e. Click on the tab labeled, Mapping.







The **Mapping** Tab will show you the map associated with this District Type. For more information on how to use Maps, please see the <u>Mapping</u> chapter of this manual.



To report problems or errors with the mapping, please use the **Incident Tracker** in this chapter or contact the Government Accountability Board Help Desk.

V5/10/2013 - 4 - Maintain District Types



#### **Maintain Districts**



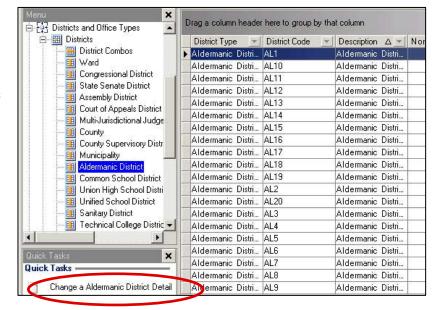
District Details provide information for individual districts based on the District Type. A District Type of Municipal will have one District Detail. The District Type of County Supervisor will have a detail record for each of the Supervisory Districts in a County. If new districts are added, a District Detail record is added. If districts change, the District Detail records must be edited. After the District Details are created, District Combos are assembled from individual districts chosen from drop-down menus.

#### **Edit District Detail**



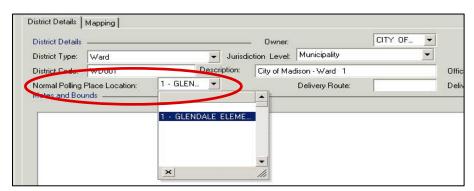
Only the Owner of a District Detail record can edit a district. The Owner is the jurisdiction level who created it originally.

- Expand (+) the Districts and Office Types node on the Main Menu tree.
- 2. Expand (+) the Districts node.
- Click on the **District Type** to be modified. In this example, **Aldermanic District** is selected.
- Click on the Change a [District Type]
   Detail Quick Task. In this example, the choice is to Change a
   Aldermanic District Detail, since Aldermanic District is selected above.
- 5. Make changes to the detail as needed. Remember only the owner of a detail record can make changes.
- 6. Click Save and Close.





One common reason to edit a district detail is to make sure every Ward is assigned the correct Normal Polling Place Location. If any Ward does not have the correct Normal Polling Place Location assigned, you must open the record, select the polling place from the drop-down list, and Save and Close.





#### **View and Maintain District Combos**



A District Combo is a single code representing the unique combination of voting districts in which a voter lives. Another way to think of it is as the unique combination of races that could possibly appear on a voter's ballot. For example, if Ward 1 in a Municipality is split by School Districts A & B, then two District Combos would be required, 1-A and 1-B, each representing a different ballot (or combination of paper ballots) needed at the polling place serving Ward 1.



In Wisconsin, wards should not be split by any districts except School, Sanitary, Lake Management or Technical College. The easiest way to tell if your District Combos are correct is to get all of your district boundaries onto a single map and compare that to the <u>District Combo Listing</u> report, covered at the end of this chapter.

#### **View District Combo Details**



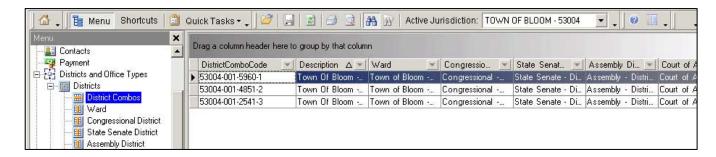
There are three reasons why a municipality might not have a District Combo represented in SVRS:

- Conversion
- Annexation
- Redistricting



If you need to modify, add or delete a District Combo please use the **Incident Tracker** to report what changes need to be done. Instructions on using the Incident Tracker can be found in this chapter.

- 1. Expand (+) the **Districts and Office Types** node on the Main Menu tree.
- 2. Expand (+) the **Districts** node.
- 3. Click on words District Combos to select.
- 4. **District Combo(s)** will appear in the data grid.
- 5. Double-click on a **District Combo** in the data grid to open a View Only of the details. The fields will be grayed out and not editable.





## **View and Maintain Office Types**



Before a Contest or Candidates can be added to an Election, Office Types for each position must be setup. Each Office Type is associated with a specific District. State and Federal offices are added by the State, County and School District offices by Counties, and Municipal offices by Municipalities.

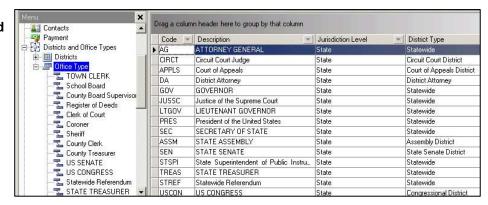
It is important to note that you should already have the necessary Office Types already created in SVRS. New office types only need to be created when new districts or a new office is created. Therefore, office types are not likely need to be added or modified or deleted. If you do need to add an Office Type, please contact the Government Accountability Board prior to proceeding with the instructions below.



Self-Providers will only have to add Office Types for municipal offices, such as Mayor, Alderperson and possibly Clerk. Counties will enter municipal Office Types for their Reliers, as well as County-wide and School District offices.

## **View Office Type**

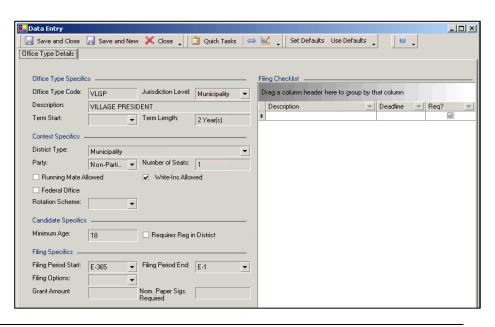
- Expand (+) the Districts and Office Types node from the Main Menu tree.
- 2. Click the Office Type node.





When **Office Type** is selected, all the current office types available for this jurisdiction are displayed in the data grid. The **Jurisdiction Level** indicates who "Owns" the **Office Type**, and will setup **Contests** and **Office Holders**. The **District Type** is what each **Office Type** is based on, such as "**County**."

- Double-click on an Office
   Type in the data grid to view its details. Office Types outside of the current jurisdiction are available for viewing, but cannot be edited. Office Types within the current jurisdiction can be edited when the record is opened.
- 4. Click Save and Close or Close.





# Add or Edit Office Type

- Expand (+) the Districts and Office Types node from the Main Menu tree.
- 2. Click the Office Type node.
- Click the Add Office Type Quick Task. A Data Entry form for Office Type is opened.
- 4. Enter an **Office Type Code**, which must be a 5 letter and/or number code. This must be unique within a jurisdiction.
- 5. Select the **Jurisdiction Level**, which is the government level of the office, such as **Municipality** or **County**.

6. Enter a **Description**. It should uniquely describe the Office, like "Milwaukee Mayor" or "Portage County Clerk".



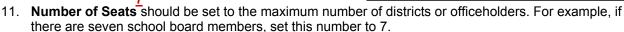
8. **Term Length** is required. (For example, enter "2 y" for 2 years.)

9. Select the **District Type** for this Office Type. For instance, if Aldermanic District is selected, every Aldermanic District in the jurisdiction will elect its own representative for this office. If Municipality is selected, all voters in the municipality will vote for this municipal office.



If you have more than one district, there is no need to create more than one **Office Type**. If creating an office type based on **Aldermanic District**, an **Office Position** is created for each **Aldermanic District**. If **District Type** is **Municipality**, only one office position will be created.

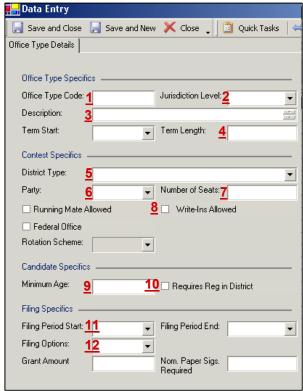
10. The **Party** affiliation will be **Non-Partisan** for all Wisconsin offices.



12. Write-in Allowed must be checked if applicable. This will allow write-ins to be entered in election results.

13. **Minimum Age** should be set to 18 for **County** and **Municipal** level offices.







- 14. Do not check **Requires Reg in District**. This will require any candidates for this **Office Type** to be a currently registered voter. However, a candidate does not always have to be registered to run for office. In Wisconsin, most laws require that the person be *eligible* to vote in that district.
- 15. **Filing Period Start/End** should always be set as a date relative to the election. You will not be able to enter candidate information before the start date and after the end date, so leave plenty of time between the two, eg. E-365 to E+30 (365 days before the election to 30 days after the election.). SVRS will not enforce actual filing periods.
- 16. **Filing Options** and **Nom. Paper Sigs. Required** are optional fields at the county and local level. For state level office types, the number of required signatures must be entered. This allows for tracking nomination paper status within the **Candidate Filing** record added during an election.
- 17. **Filing Checklist** information is not required, but can help track the required filings.

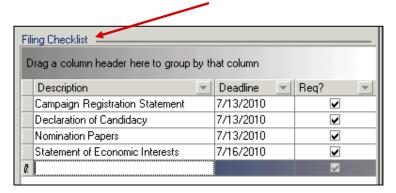


Examples of filings you can track include the GAB-1, Statements of Economic Interest, and Declarations of Non-Candidacy.



Any filing entered here will appear in a candidate's record once created. Marking a filing item as "Req?" will require marking this item as received before approving a Candidate Filing record.

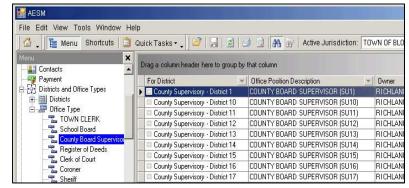
18. Click the Save and Close button.



#### **Edit Office Positions**

When an **Office Type** is created, the corresponding **Office Positions** are automatically created, so you will not need to add an **Office Position**. However, the default information can be edited, and the current **Office Holder(s)** information can be updated.

- Expand (+) the Districts and Office Types node from the Main Menu tree.
- Expand (+) the Office Types to display the list of Office Types in the Menu.
- Click on an Office Type to display the Office Position record(s) in the data grid.



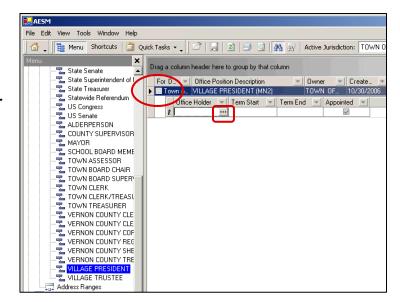
4. The Office Position Description can be edited. This is what appears in an election when selecting a Contest, and on the ballot style. The descriptions in this example are rather long and could be shortened to "County Supervisor District 1" or something similar. Only Office Types in your jurisdiction can be edited.



#### **Update Office Holder**

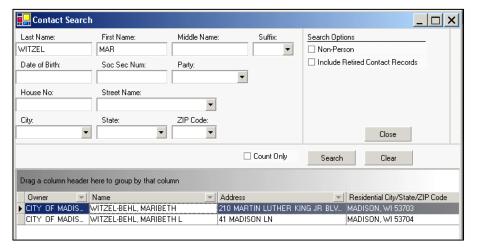
This information will be viewable online through the MyVote website.

- 1. With **Office Type** expanded in the menu, click on an **Office Type** to select.
- Click on the (+) to expand the Office
   Position in the data grid. This will display
   a nested grid containing the Office Holder
   record(s).
- 3. Add the name of the Office Holder. The small ellipse button is used to open the Contact Search. When the Contact Search screen opens, double click to select the proper contact record.





Remember the address, phone and email information in a contact record will be visible to voters on the MyVote website. You may have to create a special contact record with the Office Holder's work information, rather than using the voter contact record with the person's home address and phone. See the Contacts chapter of this manual for more details.



- Edit or enter a Term Start date and Term End date for office positions that have terms.
- 5. The **Appointed** flag is used for office holders who were appointed to fill an elected position that someone vacated or can be used to document appointed or hired officials, such as municipal clerks.



This is one of the infrequent times that data is updated directly in the data grid. You may be asked to save your changes when you navigate to another part of the application. Answer **Yes** to save your changes.



## **The District Combo Listing Report**

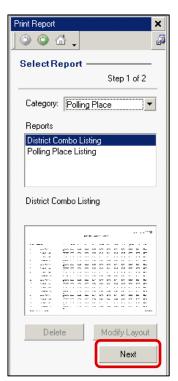


Use these directions to generate a report of the District Combos for your jurisdiction. Double check your District Combo report against maps showing district boundaries. Make sure that every District Combo has a value for each district, including Municipality, County, Technical College, and State. If any of these district values are missing or incorrect, the ballot style listed next to your voter on the poll list may be incorrect, or the voters may not show up on the poll list at all.

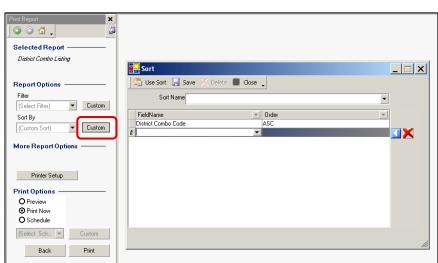
## **District Combo Listing**

- 1. Click the Reports node.
- 2. Click the **Print Reports** quick task.
- 3. Change the Category to Polling Place.
- 4. Under **Reports**, make sure **District Combo Listing** is selected.
- 5. Click the Next button.
- 6. You should not need to Filter your report.



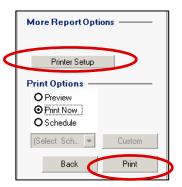


- 7. Sort your report.
  - Click the Custom button next to the Sort By box.
  - Select District
     Combo Code from
     the drop-down under
     the FieldName
     Column.
  - c. Select **ASC** in the **Order** column.
  - d. Click Use Sort.





- 8. Click the **Printer Setup** button and verify the printer settings.
- *For further information on printing and exporting a report, see the Reports chapter.*
- 9. Click the **Print Now** radio button.
- 10. Click Print.



11. A dialogue box indicating that your printing or export is complete will appear. Click **OK**.



12. Retrieve the document. You should see a report that looks like the sample below. Use this report to verify that the State Assembly, County Supervisory, and other districts are matched to the correct District Combination.

|                      | CITY OF WAUSA                         | U    |      |        | Dis  | District Combo Listing |      |       |       |     |         |      |    | 98896 FPLAC-803-C<br>Wednesday, July 15, 2009 |  |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------|------|--------|------|------------------------|------|-------|-------|-----|---------|------|----|---|--|
| DistrictCombo / Name |                                       | WARD | CONG | SEN    | ASSM | COA                    | со   | COSUP | MUNI  | ALD | USCH    | TECH | wı | DA  |  |
| 37291-001-<br>1      | City of Wausau - Ward 1 -<br>Split 1  | WD1  | CG07 | SS29   | AS85 | CA3                    | CO37 | SU1   | MN291 | ALI | US6223  | TC15 | wı | DA37  |  |
| 37291-010-<br>1      | City of Wausau - Ward 10 -<br>Split 1 | WD10 | CG07 | SS29   | AS85 | CA3                    | CO37 | SU4   | MN291 | AL4 | US6223  | TC15 | WI | DA37  |  |
| 37291-011-<br>1      | City of Wausau - Ward 11 -<br>Split 1 | WD11 | CG07 | SS29   | AS85 | CA3                    | CO37 | SU4   | MN291 | AL4 | US6223  | TC15 | WI | DA37  |  |
| 37291-012-<br>1      | City of Wausau - Ward 12 -<br>Split 1 | WD12 | CG07 | SS29   | AS85 | CA3                    | CO37 | SU5   | MN291 | AL5 | US6223  | TC15 | WI | DA37  |  |
| 37291-013-<br>1      | City of Wausau - Ward 13 -<br>Split 1 | WD13 | CG07 | \$\$29 | AS85 | CA3                    | CO37 | SU5   | MN291 | AL5 | US6223  | TC15 | WI | DA37  |  |
| 37291-014-<br>1      | City of Wausau - Ward 14 -<br>Split 1 | WD14 | CG07 | SS29   | AS85 | CA3                    | CO37 | SU6   | MN291 | AL6 | U\$6223 | TC15 | WI | DA37  |  |
| 37291-015-<br>1      | City of Wausau - Ward 15 -<br>Split 1 | WD15 | CG07 | \$\$29 | AS85 | CA3                    | CO37 | SU6   | MN291 | AL6 | US6223  | TC15 | wı | DA37  |  |
| 37291-016-<br>1      | City of Wausau - Ward 16 -<br>Split 1 | WD16 | CG07 | \$\$29 | AS85 | CA3                    | CO37 | SU7   | MN291 | AL7 | US6223  | TC15 | WI | DA37  |  |

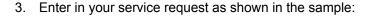


# **Business Process for Reporting Changes** or Problems with District and Office Types

#### Use the Incident tracker to enter any problems with your districts.

We expect G.A.B. staff to be very busy conducting trainings and answering clerk questions. If you have an error, please report it through our special incident tracker. Here we can prioritize and fix any data or software issues while maximizing our effectiveness on the phone.

- 1. First, go to this website: <a href="http://wisapps.wi.gov/sites/GAB/Incident">http://wisapps.wi.gov/sites/GAB/Incident</a>.
- 2. Next, click the Create a Service Request link in the upper left-hand corner.





Please include in your request specific information about an error.

 a. If the request concerns a particular incorrect voter record or district line, include the voter's name and registration number, or identify the district and problem.



- 4. Click OK.
- If you have questions you can call the G.A.B. Help Desk. Otherwise, please use the Incident Tracker website to document any issues.

